

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1969.

A. S. M. WILSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Woodleigh,
Barnard Castle.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I now submit to you my Annual Report for 1969.

The Vital Statistics of the district are generally satisfactory.

I would again thank Members of the Council for their suggestions and help. I am indebted also to Dr. Coombs for his assistance during the year and to Mr. Dixon for preparing Section II.

Your obedient Servant,

A. S. M. WILSON.

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):

A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

N. C. COOMBS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

EDGAR DIXON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

SECTION I

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Acreage)	559
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Figure mid-year 1969)	5,560
Sum represented by a penny rate	£595. 10. 8.
Rateable Value as at 1.4.69	£156,078.

Main Local Industries

Glaxo Laboratories Limited employed 970 people during 1969, and are concerned with the manufacture of antibiotics and vitamins by fermentation processes, together with the handling of antibiotics in bulk filling, packing and despatch thereof. This is the main industry and employment in the district.

Other industrial establishments in the district are concerned with engineering and ironfounding, the manufacture of gloves, and the manufacture of concrete and artificial stone products and egg and poultry packing.

Climatic Conditions

Table showing annual rainfall in inches
Compiled from figures received from the Bowes Museum

	<u>1967</u> <u>Inches</u>	<u>1968</u> <u>Inches</u>	<u>1969</u> <u>Inches</u>
January	0.95	1.69	2.86
February	4.72	2.18	2.89
March	1.96	3.76	4.12
April	1.84	1.88	2.34
May	5.01	2.43	3.25
June	1.06	2.35	3.69
July	2.98	3.68	1.26
August	3.72	1.30	2.39
September	2.89	4.53	2.17
October	5.72	3.39	0.39
November	2.76	2.65	4.52
December	1.50	3.50	1.87
	<u>35.11</u>	<u>33.34</u>	<u>31.75</u>

Average Rainfall

5 years 1965 - 1969 34.35

31.75	1969
33.34	1968
35.11	1967
36.21	1966
35.34	1965

Vital Statistics - 1969

	Males			Females		
	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total
Live Births	39	3	42	45	3	48
Still Births	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	1	-	1	1	-	1
Under 4 weeks of age	-	-	-	1	-	1
Under 1 week of age	-	-	-	1	-	1

	Male	Female	Total
A. All causes of death	54	47	101
B. Classified Main Causes:			
1. Cardio-Vascular:-			
(a) Ischaemic heart disease	13	16	29
(b) Cerebrovascular disease	12	10	22
(c) Other forms of heart disease	4	-	4
(d) Other circulatory diseases	3	5	8
(e) Chronic Rheumatic Heart disease	1	-	1
Totals	<u>33</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>64</u>
2. Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms)	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>13</u>
3. Chest Diseases:-			
(a) Pneumonia	2	2	4
(b) Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	2	7
(c) Influenza	-	2	2
Totals	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>

The main causes of death in the district during the year were cancer 12.9%, diseases of the respiratory system 12.9%, and diseases of the heart and circulatory system 63.4%.

Live-birth Rate - 16.2 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate - 17.5 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales 16.3 per 1,000 home population.

Death Rate - 18.2 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate - 13.8 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 11.9 per 1,000 home population.

Deaths of Infants.

Under 1 year of age - 22 per 1,000 live-births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 18 per 1,000 live-births.

Perinatal Mortality - 11 per 1,000 total live and still births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 23 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Year	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Population	5260	5290	5280	5290	5420	5410	5360	5410	5560	5560
Births	99	85	105	96	115	101	80	84	100	90

The above table shows live-births per year since 1960 together with the estimated populations for each year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

A. Hospitals

The Richardson-Bede Hospital complex now makes available 82 beds which is a most valuable asset to the community.

B. Laboratories

Public Health Laboratories are available at Northallerton and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Facilities are also provided at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, Pathological Department for urgent bacteriological examinations.

C. County Council Services

In his quarterly reports to the Area Health Sub-Committee the County Medical Officer includes the following information of Services in the Area.

1. Ambulance Facilities

Barnard Castle urban and rural districts are served by two ambulance depots, three ambulances and six driver-attendants.

2. Home Nursing and Midwifery Services

Staff: 6 District Nurse Midwives.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>
Mrs. L. Atkinson	4, Victoria Terrace, Middleton-in-Teesdale	Middleton-in-Teesdale 308
<u>Miss L. H. Dodd</u>	<u>4, Montgomery Road,</u> <u>Barnard Castle.</u>	Barnard Castle 2149
<u>Mrs. L. M. Morton</u>	<u>3, Harmire Road,</u> <u>Barnard Castle.</u>	Barnard Castle 3156
Mrs. M. C. Pattison	45, Coronation Gardens, Staindrop.	Staindrop 310
Miss E. Shenton	13, Eden Crest, Gainford.	Gainford 247
Mrs. V. M. Slack	Garden House, Copley, Butterknowle.	Cockfield 254

These District Nurse Midwives practice domicilliary midwifery and carry out general home nursing as required.

3. Health Visiting

The number of Health Visitors in the area at the end of 1969 was three. Their routine duties include visits to mothers and children, tuberculous patients, the mentally subnormal, school children and the aged.

4. Domestic Help Service

Assistance is provided in the home when necessary on account of old age, home confinement or illness.

5. Child Welfare Centres

A Baby Clinic and Antenatal Clinic are provided by the family doctors in the town, with a health visitor and district nurses in attendance.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATION;
POLIOMYELITIS, SMALLPOX AND MEASLES VACCINATION

Protection against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, smallpox and measles is available from family doctors and child welfare centres.

Polio protection is available up to the age of 40 and to certain priority groups over that age. The vaccine may be had either by injection or by mouth.

During 1969, the immunisation of school entrants was continued. This work was carried out within the schools on a sessional basis and is reflected in the general immunisation statistics for the area.

The following records have been received for work carried out in the area during 1969.

	<u>TOTAL UNDER 16 YEARS</u>	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Boosters</u>
Poliomyelitis	33	40
Diphtheria	28	79
Whooping Cough	17	8
Tetanus	37	94
Smallpox	11	4
Measles	45	-

The statistics for immunisation and vaccination in the Barnard Castle Area are not as satisfactory as they might be despite the steady flow of information to parents exhorting them to take advantage of the wide range of protection which is so readily available.

B. C. G. Vaccination

During 1969 protection against tuberculosis continued to be offered in accordance with County Council policy to all school children aged 11 years and over.

A skin test is carried out first to see whether or not a child has developed a degree of natural immunity. A negative reading indicates the need for protection, and vaccination is then carried out.

Of the 71 children tested during 1969, 62 were found to be negative and were vaccinated.

Children who are absent, or not vaccinated for such medical reasons as intercurrent infection, skin conditions, etc. are usually taken up at subsequent sessions.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during recent years

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Scarlet Fever	2	1	1	2	28
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	32	22	47	164	2
Whooping Cough	-	-	12	27	9
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	30	-	-	-	13
Food Poisoning	2	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	1	1
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	4

Tuberculosis

During 1969 one case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified. There were no deaths attributable to tuberculosis during the year.

SECTION II.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply

Water in the Urban area is supplied and distributed by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board. The water is impounded and treated higher up the Tees valley and gravitates to all the town at sufficient head to supply all the district with a satisfactory supply both in quantity and quality.

Closet Accommodation

The whole of the town is serviced with water closets connected to the Council's sewers with the exception of four properties which are situated in such a position that drainage cannot gravitate to the main. These four properties are served by pail privies.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

About half of the premises in the town have their dustbins emptied once per week and the other half twice per week.

An experiment to provide plastic bin liners was in operation at the end of the year.

Two 20 cubic yard "S & D" Pakamatic Refuse Collection Vehicles were brought into service in July. The provision of these vehicles enabled the Council to have all household refuse conveyed to the Barnard Castle Rural District Council's Cragg Wood Tip at Cockfield and discontinue the depositing of household refuse on this Council's Shaw Bank Tip.

Improvement Grants - Housing Acts 1949 - 69.

	<u>Discretionary</u>	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Total</u>
Applications submitted to the local authority during 1969	57	9	66
Applications refused during 1969	-	-	-
Total number of applications approved since the inception of scheme	149	58	207
Total number of grants paid since the inception of scheme	138	46	184

During the year, the older houses belonging to the North Eastern Housing Association Limited and built before 1939 were improved with the assistance of grants.

New Dwellings during 1969

For the second year running, no dwellings were completed in the Urban District.

Housing Units Lost during the Year.

Closing Orders were made on three dwellings during the year.

Housing by the Council

One house in a Clearance Area was vacant but still standing at the end of the year.

A start was made on the building of 15 two person and 19 one person flatlets and a warden's flat on the site of Dunelm Square. When these are completed, there will be 7 sites for 4 person 3 bedroom houses with garages on the remainder of the site.

Land purchased by the North Eastern Housing Association Limited, known as Callowflats Allotments behind Zetland Road was being investigated with a view to the construction of Key Workers' houses for Messrs. Glaxo Laboratories Limited at the end of the year.

The Council have purchased the railway tracks and have made application for planning permission to develop the former Goods Station land for private housing and the Passenger Station land for industrial use.

Application for Council Houses

The number of applications on the Council's list at the end of the year was 122, compared with 136 at the end of 1968.

Provision of Dwellings by the Local Authority

	Owners	Situation	No. of Bedrooms				
			1	2	3	4	Total
Pre 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Dunelm Square	-	1	-	-	1
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited)	Dunelm Square	10	-	-	-	10
	Association)	Dawson Road	-	22	14	8	44
	Limited)						
		TOTAL PRE 1939	10	23	14	8	55
Post 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Victoria Road	-	-	12	-	12
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited)	Zetland Road Estate	-	20	28	6	54
	Association)	Montalbo Road Estate	8	-	82	12	102
	Limited)	Zetland Road Estate	6	20	13	-	39
		Green Lane Site	8	76	80	12	176
		The Bank Redevelopment	-	1	5	1	7
		Thorngate "	4	2	5	-	11
		Bridgegate "	-	22	32	-	54
		Galgate "	3	1	-	-	4
		Churchill Road	-	-	87	-	87
		TOTAL POST 1939	29	142	344	31	546
		TOTAL HOUSES	39	165	358	39	601

Factories and Workshops

Two notifications were received from the Factory Inspector and were remedied during the year.

Two outworkers, finishing wearing apparel, are employed in the District. The premises are quite satisfactory.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269

A renewal licence was again issued in respect of a temporary dwelling on the Prospect Place Caravan Site. Piped water, W.C. and drainage facilities are in close proximity to the dwelling.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Prospect Place, Caravan Site, Staindrop Road, Barnard Castle

This is a residential site for 17 caravans complete with the usual requirements, i.e. hard standings, water supply, store, communal wash-house, dustbins, fire points, and W.C. accommodation connected to the Council's sewerage system. There is a tarmac road to the site which is used to capacity and is reasonably satisfactory.

Red Well Inn, Harmire Road, Barnard Castle

One permanently occupied caravan is on the site, the licence being held by the site owner.

Thirty-five holiday caravan sites are provided on the remainder of the site for use between 1st March and 31st October each year. The usual toilet, washing, and dustbin facilities are available, also drainage to a septic tank nearby.

Rodent Control

One Council, 3 business, 1 agricultural and 3 domestic properties were treated for infestation by rodents during the year.

Slaughterhouses

The four slaughterhouses in the area at present holding a licence are:-

1.	Vere Road, Barnard Castle	Mr. W. H. Foster
2.	Rear of 54, Galgate, Barnard Castle	W. Peat Ltd.
3.	Birch Road, Barnard Castle	Mr. F. A. Youngs
4.	Rear of 46, The Bank, Barnard Castle	Mr. R. C. Jackson

Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

Reciprocal arrangements exist with the Barnard Castle Rural District Council for full meat inspection during the absence of the Inspector due to holidays or sickness.

Part-time slaughtermen are responsible for more than half of the work, this being done after their normal working hours.

Animals Slaughtered

The following table shows the animals killed, inspected and found unfit for human consumption at the slaughterhouses during the year ending 31st December, 1969.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	811	3	8	2414	995
Number inspected	811	3	8	2414	995
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	2	1
Part of carcase or organ condemned	218	1	-	106	263
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	27.0	33.0	-	4.52	26.53
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.12	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part of organ condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Submitted for refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-

Milk Supplies

Brucella Abortus

There is only one milk producer in the Urban District whose milk is sent to the Milk Marketing Board for Pasteurisation.

Raw milk sampling for Brucella Abortus is carried out by the County Health Inspector.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Urban District.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The following is a list of food premises in the district:-

Grocers	35
Butchers	9
Fish Shops	5
Confectioners	14
Cafes	16
Licensed Premises	<u>21</u>
	<u>100</u>

All premises have washing facilities for personal use and washing equipment facilities where necessary.

Poultry Inspection

Only two premises for the purpose of poultry processing operate within the district.

Infrequent visits are made to these premises. The larger unit killed 154,000 hens, 400 chickens and 400 turkeys during the year and the smaller unit 700 hens, 50 chickens and 40 turkeys. The majority of chickens and turkeys were killed during the Christmas period.

Causes of Death at different periods of life
during 1969 in the Urban District of Barnard Castle

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in Years									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over	
Malignant Neoplasm Buccal Cavity etc.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Malignant Neoplasm - Oesophagus	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm - Prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Diabetes Mellitus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	6	
	F	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	12	
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	8	
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	6	
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	
Influenza	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
Pneumonia	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Symtoms and Ill-defined Conditions	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
All other Accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	54	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	10	15	25	
	F	47	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	13	28	

